

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows, without prejudice or disclaimer:

Claims 1-3 (currently cancelled).

Claim 4 (previously and currently amended) The vector of claim 1 which is ~~a plasmid vector having the identifying characteristics of plasmid JB-3120-2 as seen illustrated in~~ Figure 1A.

Claim 5 (currently amended) An expression vector for expression of a recombinant protein in a host cell, comprising:

a nucleic acid molecule encoding a non-proteolytic analog of *Haemophilus* Hin47 protein wherein said Hin47 protein is mutated at amino acid 91, 121 or 197,

at least one additional nucleic acid molecule encoding the recombinant protein,
and

at least one regulatory element operatively connected to said first nucleic acid molecule and said at least one additional nucleic acid molecule to effect expression of at least said recombinant protein in said host cell.

Claim 6 (original)

Claim 7 (currently cancelled)

Claim 8 (original)

Claim 9 (previously amended) The vector of claim 5 wherein said at least one additional nucleic acid molecule encodes a Hia or Hsf protein of a strain of *Haemophilus influenzae*.

Claim 10 (original)

Claim 11 (original)

Claim 12 (previously and currently amended) The vector which is ~~a plasmid vector having the identifying characteristics of plasmid DS-2342-2-2 as seen illustrated in~~ Figure 5.

Claim 13 (previously and currently amended) The vector which is ~~a plasmid vector having the identifying characteristics of plasmid JB-3145-1 as seen illustrated in~~ Figure 10.

Claims 14-43 (previously cancelled)